Imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa by U.S.A.

32. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the fact that the American Congress has decided to impose stringent economic sanctions against South Africa;

(b) if so, what specific steps have since been taken by the U.S. Government to impose such sanctions in the light of the resolutions recently passed at the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Summit Meet and the Commonwealth Conference;

(c) whether British Government and their European allies have also reviewed their stand with respect to imposing of economic sanctions against South Africa; and

(d) what is the reaction of the Government of India in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Government of India has seen reports of the passing of a law in USA last week on the basis of the US Congress overriding the Presidential veto of a Congressional Bill to impose further economic sanctions against South Africa. The law provides, among other things, for a ban on US investment and bank loans; terminates US landing rights for South African airways; and prohibits US imports of South African uranium, coal, steel, textiles, military vehicles, agricultural products and food.

(c) and (d) The European Economic Community which includes Britain, decided in the middle of September to ban new investments in South Africa and stop imports of iron, steel and gold coins from that country. These measures fall far short of the universal comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa advocated by India. They are also far short of the measures applied by India itself and those agreed upon by the Commonwealth leaders.

Nuclear disarmament

33. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in his address to the U.N. General Assembly in September, 1986. he called upon the nuclear power States other than the two big nuclear powers, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., to decide on nuclear disarmament independently without waiting for the super powers to take such a step; and

(b) if so, what was the response of the different nuclear power States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) After reminding the US and USSR of their responsibility for halting the nuclear arms race and for nuclear disarmament, the External Affairs Minister stated that other nuclear weapons States also must not shirk their responsibility. A decision on their part for nuclear disarmament would only have a positive effect. They should no longer take shelter behind positions that they would disarm only if the two Super Powers did.

Anti-Apartheid action plan

34. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive antiapartheid action plan was evolved at the Harare Summit of the non-Aligned Meet;

(b) if so, what are the details of the action plan; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the steps taken by each member country in the light thereof and what action has been taken by the Government of India in regard therto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The Harare Summit devoted special attention to concerted and concrete action by nonaligned countries to combat South